



**MARICOPA COUNTY  
Environmental Services**  
1001 N. Central Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85004  
[www.maricopa.gov/envsvc](http://www.maricopa.gov/envsvc)

December 19, 2001

For more information, contact Laura Devany at (602) 506-6611 / Pager: (602) 420-7874

## **HOLIDAY VOLUNTEERS NEED FOOD SERVICE WORKER LICENSE**

***County Provides Free Testing and Certification Through Christmas Eve***

(Phoenix)— If your holiday plans include serving food to the needy, you've only got a few days left to get your food service worker license. The Maricopa County Environmental Services Department (MCESD) provides free testing and licenses to volunteer food service workers and will be open through Christmas Eve at its downtown Phoenix office.

"Volunteers can make the most of their service if they're up to speed on food safety practices," said David Ludwig, Environmental Health Division Manager. "It takes less than an hour to learn how to keep people safe from foodborne illnesses during the holidays and throughout the year."

The Maricopa County Food Code requires food service worker licenses for people who handle, prepare, serve, sell or give away food for human consumption. This includes busing and washing dishes. Those interested in receiving a license must pass a test before receiving their card, which is valid for three years. The fee for license issuance or renewal is \$12 for paid workers and free to volunteers. Study booklets are available in five languages at the testing site and on line at [maricopa.gov/envsvc/envhlth/fdwkr/fht.asp](http://maricopa.gov/envsvc/envhlth/fdwkr/fht.asp).

The food service worker program has issued nearly two thousand volunteer licenses this year through special classes for groups like BankOne Ballpark, St. Vincent de Paul, City of Phoenix Headstart, and at the department's four regional offices.

Testing is conducted in English and Spanish Monday through Friday from 8a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the following locations\*:

- 1001 N. Central Ave, Third Floor, Phoenix
- 3101 E. Shea, Suite 220, Phoenix
- 1255 W. Baseline, Suite 124A, Mesa
- 8910 N. 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Suite 101, Glendale

\*Only the Central Avenue location will be open December 24 and December 26-28.

### **Information about Testing and Licensure**

No testing is done on weekends or holidays. Offices are least busy in the mornings. No cards or checks are accepted. For additional information, please call (602) 506-2960.